

GREAT GALES IN BRITAIN.

MUCH DAMAGE ON SEA AND LAND, AND
MANY LIVES LOST.SEVERAL VESSELS DISABLED OR WRECKED—
NUMBERLESS HOUSES UNROOFED IN ENGLAND—FLOODS IN IRELAND AND WALES

—THE UNBRIAR'S ROUGH TRIP.

London, Jan. 26.—Monsi Strait, in Wales, is rendered impassable by the fury of the gale. Many sailors have been swept overboard and drowned. The parade at Sandgate is partially destroyed. The ship *Irex*, bound from Greenock for Rio Janeiro, was wrecked off The Needles. Several of the crew were drowned. The survivors clung to the rigging all day Saturday and part of Sunday. It was impossible to send a lifeboat to the rescue, as no boat could live in the turbulent sea; but a lifeline was finally shot across the vessel, and in this way the men were safely landed.

Captain McKean, of the Cunard steamer *Unbrar*, from New-York, reports that the passage was the roughest that the vessel has ever made. Several passengers were injured by being thrown violently upon the decks, and it was finally found necessary to issue an order prohibiting passengers from coming on deck.

The bark *Janet Crown* has returned to Plymouth. She reports that two of her crew were washed overboard and drowned, and that many were injured.

The steamer *Yorkshire*, at Liverpool, from Baltimore, was flooded, had her bridges destroyed and sustained other damage. Three seamen were killed, and the ship was wrecked. The *Yorkshire* was blown from the river and two were drowned.

The gales continued with increasing strength and velocity in the southern portion of England throughout the day. Damage to property by the storm was general. Numberless houses have been unroofed. The River Shannon, in Ireland, and a number of rivers in Wales have overflowed their banks, flooding the adjacent country.

At Newcastle, Jan. 26.—The westerly gales now prevailing are of unprecedented severity. The sea has caused much damage to the town. A number of small craft have been swamped. Outward bound line steamers report fearful weather in the Irish Channel. The bark *Sully*, from Plymouth, encountered hurricanes for ten days, and lost her first mate by drowning.

HEAVY FLOODS IN CALIFORNIA.

BRIDGES HAVE BEEN WASHED AWAY AND RAILROAD TRAFFIC HAS BEEN IMPEDDED—THE
BLOCKADE ON THE UNION PACIFIC RAISED.

San Francisco, Jan. 26.—The warm rains that have fallen in Northern California for the last few days have melted a large amount of snow in the Sierra Nevada and Siskiyou Mountains and caused the streams and rivers to overflow their banks. The damage will not be as great as was feared. The quick rise of the waters has washed out many of the railroad bridges, filled the cities and caused landslides, and the railroad traffic on all the lines in the northern portion of the State will be impeded for several days. From a number of flooded places came reports that while the individual loss will be great, the overflowing of the lands, by which several inches of rich sediment are left on the farms, will add greatly to their value. At the city of San Jose the water is higher than ever before known.

At Santa Clara the principal thoroughfares are covered with water for half a mile. The district north and south of San Jose is flooded. Although three lines of railroad operate between San Francisco and San Jose, no trains were able to move yesterday, owing to the washouts at Santa Cruz. This morning twenty feet of the approach to the upper bridge across the San Lorenzo River gave way, rendering the bridge impassable. At the same hour 100 feet of the approach to the railroad bridge on the Southern Pacific, at the mouth of the river, fell in. The water reached the highest point ever known, and overflowed a portion of the city. The Western Union line men report that the deepest snow is in the vicinity of Tamarack.

For more than a mile not a telegraph pole is in view, and it was necessary to dig a trench through the snow more than twenty feet deep in order to free the wires. Provisions are very scarce at Emigrant Gap, and if the road is not opened soon it will be necessary to bring up supplies on snow shoes.

At Chico, in the Sacramento Valley, the Sacramento River is over its bank, and it is flooding the entire country lying near it. It is estimated that it is fifteen feet higher than it was during the last flood. At Redding and at Red Bluff, near the headwaters of the Sacramento River, the water began to subside yesterday. The water stood from five to six feet deep over 20,000 acres of land in the Russian River Valley. From Geyserville to Healdsburg, a distance of eight miles, it was a vast sea. Several sections of Alexander Valley Bridge, the largest bridge in the country, have been swept away. The river spread over an area of five miles in width. At a point on Dry Creek it joins the Russian River, and the water, which is a headwater of the river, is a torrent, flooding the Dry Creek Valley for many miles.

Relief parties were out in boats all day yesterday rescuing people from their homes. The houses of Joseph E. Ketter, at Ketter, were swept away, the kitchen breaking to pieces as it struck the railroad bridge, while the latter, a two-story building, is lodged against the railroad bridge. This morning near the mouth of the river a family was running only a few feet from the water. At Knight's Ferry, on Stanislaus River, forty miles south of Stockton, the people yesterday began moving out of their houses in the lower portion of the town.

At the mouth of the "divide" which blew the Rio Grande and Santa Fe passenger train from the track at Monument Lake yesterday afternoon, has subsided. The wind was so strong that the coaches were lifted from the tracks, carried ten or fifteen feet and thrown upon their sides. Several passengers were slightly bruised and cut with glass, but none were seriously hurt. Considerable damage was done to the houses of the Santa Fe station, and the roofs of houses being blown off, but up to the present time no one has been reported hurt. The fire which started on the Cheyenne Mountain near Colorado Springs, last evening, and threatened to burn the grave of Helen Hunt Jackson, has been extinguished.

The snow blockade on the Central Pacific and the California and Oregon railways still exists. In general, the rain and snow storms in the northern portion of California have ceased, but whether or not the pleasant weather will last until the blockade is raised cannot be foretold. The warm rain that has fallen in northern parts of the State is shifting southward, but the storm is much less violent, and the amount of snow melted on the mountains is therefore less. Rain has fallen in the San Joaquin Valley, but so far as now known little damage has resulted. The rainfall in the neighborhood of this city the past two days was so heavy that small washouts are reported on all sides. No trains are running on the Southern Pacific Coast Road. The three lines to Sacramento by way of Redwood, Martinez and Niles are closed. No trains are running from Vallejo to Calistoga and Santa Rosa. On the Northern Division of the Southern Pacific, trains are running only as far as San Jose. The Placerville and Lone Branches are closed.

Portland, Ore., Jan. 26.—The blockade on the Union Pacific is again virtually raised. The east-bound trains started Jan. 26, and the west-bound trains started Jan. 27. A snow-plow will reach Baker City to-day, and four delayed trains will then start for Portland, and expect to get through on "the ark" to-day. The snow and the snow melting rapidly. Superintendent Johnson says the Union Pacific has no fear of landslides or washouts, and, barring snowdrifts, no fear is felt of further interruption on the line.

At Colfax, Cal., Jan. 26.—The eastbound overland train which has been snowed out at Shady Run since January 15 was released yesterday and returned to Sacramento. The consolidation of the overland trains, which have been lying at this place since the 16th also returned to

Sacramento yesterday. Since noon yesterday neither rain nor snow has fallen, but at Truckee three feet of snow has fallen since Friday night. Later reports say that the railroad is clear from Truckee east. Snow ploughs have been kept in constant motion. Many heavy drifts are in the sand and silt, and what snow has fallen is wet and heavy.

ROUGH EXPERIENCE AT SEA.

INCOMING STEAMERS MORE OR LESS DAMAGED
BY THE STORM.

All incoming ships yesterday from "across the Western Ocean" brought tales of fierce struggles with the elements. The *Monrovia*, from Hamburg, left there January 8 with five cabin and 121 steerage passengers, and a cargo of general merchandise. Strong westerly gales were encountered which put her immediately after leaving port. On January 18 the wind increased to a hurricane, which lasted for six hours, and was accompanied by tremendous seas, which swept the decks, smashing boats and carrying everything movable overboard.

The British steamer *St. William*, which left Hamburg on December 19, and concerning whose safety some fears have been entertained, came into port yesterday, after a passage which her captain says was the worst he had ever seen in his thirty-five years' experience on the North Atlantic. On January 7 the sea was so rough that bags of oil were hung over the steamer's bows.

Among the other arrivals of storm-tossed vessels was the *Egypt*, of the National Line. She left London on January 2, and when off the Nova Scotia coast it was found that the great delay caused by the storm had reduced her coal supply so much as to render it advisable to put in at Halifax for a fresh supply.

The *St. William*, which left Hamburg on January 11, arrived yesterday, after a passage the most stormy in her experience. Her life boats on the port side were carried off her deck, and the *St. William*, her commander, had his right leg injured by being thrown against a bulkhead during the storm.

The steamer *Saale*, from Bremen, experienced the same sort of weather. The *Graf*, from Gibraltar, had her life boats carried off her deck, and the *St. William*, her commander, had his right leg injured by being thrown against a bulkhead during the storm.

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STORM-TOSSED STEAMERS REACHING PORT.

Boston, Jan. 26 (special).—The mild and balmy weather that hung over our harbor today afforded the inviting opportunity for the entrance of a large number of steamers.

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TOWING AN AMERICAN SCHOONER TO BERMUDA.

Bermuda, Jan. 25.—The British steamer *Albatross*, from Madeira for Baltimore, which arrived at Bermuda yesterday, reported that Sunday morning, January 19, she had towed a small American schooner, *John H. Haskell*, 300 miles from land. She took the *Haskell* in tow, and arrived at Bermuda.

TROUBLE IN THE BOLLINGST PARTY.

A SPLIT LIKELY ON THE QUESTION OF ADOPTING AN ANTI-SMITH POLICY.

Paris, Jan. 26.—The "Bollingst" party, a split is threatened in the ranks of the Bollingst party. M. Laur and Drouot, favor the adoption of an anti-Smuth policy, while M. Naquet and others oppose such a course, and threaten to resign if their views are not approved. The committee will meet on Wednesday, to decide upon a policy.

THE GERMAN-CZECH AGREEMENT.

Prague, Jan. 26.—The Executive Committee of the German party in Bohemia, which accepted its authority by the action of the recent German-Czech conference in Vienna. The German committee takes this action on the assumption that all the parties to the conference will likewise accept the agreement.

The Czechs of the Conference and Old Czech members of the Diet today, it was decided to accept the Bohemian conference agreement. The Young Czechs have appointed a committee to examine the agreement.

MORE ARTILLERY NEEDED FOR SERVIA.

Belgrade, Jan. 26.—The Serbian government will demand from the Skopje a credit of 2,000,000 for the purchase of artillery.

RIOTING IN A PORTUGUESE TOWN.

Lisbon, Jan. 26.—The "Dia" reports rioting at Lagos, in the province of Algarve, and says that the trouble was not of Republican origin, as rumored, but arose from the disorderly behavior of a number of soldiers who forced the gates of the barracks in order to take part in a demonstration against the British ultimatum.

DENOUNCING ENGLAND AT OPORTO.

Lisbon, Jan. 26.—A meeting was held at Oporto today to denounce England. The Mayor presided.

A REPLY TO MR. DAVITT.

Dublin, Jan. 26.—The Bishop of Raphoe replies to Mr. Davitt that it is necessary to recognize private property in land, and that those urging the contrary stand in the way of realizing their own views.

AN AMERICAN ENGINEER LEAVING AFRICA.

Zanzibar, Jan. 26.—Dr. Adol, of the Smithsonian Institution at Washington, has returned from his exploring expedition to Masailand. He left his companion, Mr. Carroll, on Mount Kilimanjaro.

FIRE IN A MONTREAL HOTEL.

Montreal, Jan. 26.—A fire broke out at noon today in the Montreal Hotel. A guest was awakened by smoke entering his room, and on opening the door found the corridor filled with smoke. He climbed by a fire escape to the roof, where he was rescued by the fire department. The damage from water is heavy and the total loss will amount to \$25,000. The loss is covered by insurance.

TO REGULATE FACTORY LABOR.

Berne, Jan. 26.—The Bundesrath has decided to convene an international conference in May next, for the purpose of establishing regulations relative to factory labor.

SOUTH AMERICAN BONDARY TREATY SIGNED.

Montevideo, Jan. 26.—A treaty was signed yesterday definitely settling the boundary dispute between Brazil and the Argentine Republic. The treaty was signed by Brazil and senior Zaldívar for the Argentine Republic.

PROPOSED CANADIAN BANKING LEGISLATION.

Ottawa, Jan. 26.—A large and influential deputation of bankers called on the Minister of Finance yesterday in reference to the proposed banking legislation to be introduced in Parliament this session. A scheme was discussed for the currency at par of banknotes issued in any one province throughout the Dominion, the regulation of circulation, and the establishment of a guarantee fund, to cover the notes issued by any guarantee fund, to cover the notes issued by any guarantee fund, to cover the notes issued by any guarantee fund.

REPUBLICAN GAINS IN THE FRENCH CHAMBER.

Paris, Jan. 26.—M. Lagasse, Republican, has been elected to the Chamber of Deputies for St. Lo. M. Lagasse, Republican, has secured the seat from which M. Dillon was ousted.

AN ICEBRIDGE AT MONTREAL.

Montreal, Jan. 26.—During the last few days an ice-bridge has been forming in the river. To-night the ice became jammed in the channel, and the river rose rapidly. The water invaded Point St. Charles, and for a time a flood was feared, but the water retired without having done much damage.

WHERE DID THE MONEY GO?

G. H. LOUNSBURY'S BONDSMEN PUZZLED.

WHAT IS SAID ABOUT HIS HABITS AND HIS DOMESTIC LIFE—NOTHING NEW AT THE POSTOFFICE.

The bondsmen of George H. Lounsbury, the dead cashier of the New-York Postoffice, have not decided what course they will pursue. Edgar Washburn said to a Tribune reporter yesterday: "We held a meeting Saturday afternoon at Mr. Huffman's office and talked over the situation thoroughly. We shall do nothing until we know whether or not we are legally responsible, and if so, for what amount. There are a number of questions to be settled. It must be shown that the money was taken while we were on Mr. Lounsbury's bond before we can be held to a settlement, and it must also be proved that the money is actually gone. I suppose the Postoffice people assume that there is an actual delinquency on the part of the Postoffice, and at once some down on the bondsmen to make good the assumed loss. But we would be very poor business men if we paid over \$50,000 without being convinced that we must do so. When we are convinced that we are legally responsible we shall liquidate our obligations without incurring unnecessary expense of testing the matter in the courts."

THE GAS PROBLEM IN BALTIMORE.

PROVISIONS OF THREE BILLS LOOKING TO ITS SOLUTION.

Baltimore, Jan. 26.—The gas problem is of interest everywhere, and that of Baltimore, in the shape of several bills, will probably come up before the Legislature this week. The Armstrong bill, one of the measures that will be introduced, provides that the Consolidated Gas Company shall for twenty-five years have the exclusive right to furnish gas in the city, under these provisions: After paying 6 per cent to the stockholders and retaining 1 per cent of the profits exceeding 6 per cent for a sinking fund to pay off the bonded indebtedness, the remainder of the net earnings shall be paid to the Mayor and City Council in thirty days after the end of each year. The bill also provides that the company shall have over 6 per cent shall be paid to the city, the company, however, being permitted to retain 10 per cent of the city share of the profits, when actually necessary for the extension of the plant and manufacturing facilities. Another bill will embody a portion of the Armstrong measure and the proposition of Mayor Davidson, which is: First, let the gas company waive its claim to exemption of plant from taxation; secondly, agree to supply the city with gas at not more than 1000 feet, thirdly, pay to the city a bonus of \$10,000 each year for twenty-five years, such bonus to be considered a part of the expenses of the company in ascertaining profits; fourthly, let the city have the right to abrogate the agreement at the expiration of any period of five years by giving one year's notice. A third bill will require the company to annually pay to the city \$100,000 and also a per cent of the dividend as paid to stockholders; and the company to have the exclusive franchise to furnish gas in Baltimore at \$1.25 per 1000 feet.

INVENTION OF A NEW TELEPHONE.

Chicago, Jan. 26 (special).—James Louth, of this city, has patented the "stetho-telephone," an invention which he believes will far surpass the present telephone system without any infringing upon the patents. The new invention has been thoroughly tested in several conversations between Chicago and Milwaukee over a common telephone wire, with six other wires on the same posts, which were being operated by means of very heavy batteries. The absence of a diaphragm is one of the chief features of the invention. The transmitting button projects about two inches from the side of the instrument, and is in a convenient position to be placed against the ear, and the receiving button is placed in the proper position against the ear. Holding the instrument with its transmitting button against the ear, and the receiving button against the ear, the user can talk in a normal tone of voice, and the sound is transmitted to the ear of the person at the other end of the line. The instrument is said to have all the capabilities of the ordinary stethoscope, with the addition that it is able to transmit all voice sounds to a distance. The combined transmitter and receiver is four and one-half inches long and the center of the transmitting button projects about two inches from the side of the instrument, and is in a convenient position to be placed against the ear, and the receiving button is placed in the proper position against the ear. Holding the instrument with its transmitting button against the ear, and the receiving button against the ear, the user can talk in a normal tone of voice, and the sound is transmitted to the ear of the person at the other end of the line. The instrument is said to have all the capabilities of the ordinary stethoscope, with the addition that it is able to transmit all voice sounds to a distance. 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